

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the following amended abstract for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification:

A backlight unit is provided, which ~~comprises~~ has a linear light source for generating a light source light, a light guide plate ~~comprising~~ including an end side and a broad side, and a light amount reducing member for reducing the amount of the light source light. The light amount reducing member is capable of transmitting light and is made of a material having greater attenuation coefficient than that of the light guide plate. The light source light is input to the end side, is propagated through the light guide plate, and is output through the broad side. The light amount reducing member is provided at a joint portion of the end side and the broad side and portions neighboring the joint portion of the light guide plate.